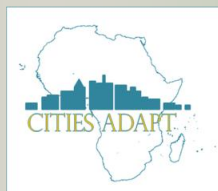


Sub-Saharan Africa:
5 City Adaptation Network
- Sharing the lessons learned -
Closing Workshop Report



4-6 July 2012

Cape Town, South Africa



Sub-Saharan Africa: 5 City Adaptation Network

ICLEI Africa's 5 City Adaptation Network project closes on a legacy note!

Last week saw the closing of ICLEI Africa's three year Climate Change Adaptation project entitled: ['Sub-Saharan African Cities: A Five City Network to Pioneer Climate Adaptation through participatory Research and Local Action'](#), funded jointly by DFID and IDRC through the Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) Program.

The closing workshop of this project was hosted at the Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel in Cape Town, South Africa from 4-6 June 2012. All five project pioneering cities (Walvis Bay, Namibia; Cape Town, South Africa; Maputo, Mozambique; Temeke Municipality, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; and Port Louis Mauritius) participated in knowledge sharing sessions and discussions pertaining to the lessons that have been learned and shared between the project cities over the past three years. These adaptation lessons, and the implementation thereof, have been gained through the use of platforms and networks from local, regional and international areas that this project, combined with the ICLEI international network of sub national governments has provided.



The five City Adaptation Network cities met in Cape Town, South Africa from 4-6 July 2012.

INTERACTIVE CITY LEARNING EXCHANGE

The three day workshop enabled the cities political leaders and technical decision makers to share from their experiences on how climate change is impacting upon local infrastructure, service delivery, ecosystems and socio-economic activities. The leaders from each of the pioneering cities delivered presentations on the risks and impacts that are exerting pressures on the services and infrastructure that fall within their geographical jurisdictions. To complement these, each city presented their efforts that are being implemented by the respective local authorities towards climate resilience through a range of activities from; community, institutional, biophysical and infrastructural perspectives. With each case represented, it was clear that the actions implemented are adapted to 'fit' within the locally specific contexts.

The workshop provided a platform for the cities to share how they had acted upon, and executed the project activities within their jurisdiction, demonstrating best practices and challenges encountered. Also in attendance, were several representatives affiliated with a variety of academic foci (i.e. socio-economics, developmental, oceanographic, biodiversity, ecosystemic and environmental sustainability) who have been involved in different aspects of the implementation, evaluation and the provision of guiding the achievement of the projects overarching and specific objectives during the three year period.



City leaders and technical heads present on climate change risks at the local level and on adopted local solutions, from which other cities learnt best practices from.

Sub-Saharan Africa: 5 City Adaptation Network

CITY LEADERS UNPACK URBAN RISK AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS

This particular event was coupled with a larger global event, hosted by the World Bank entitled 'Understanding Risk'. The event afforded an opportunity for each of the mayors and their representatives to attend a Mayoral Round Table session, aimed at sharing the climate change related challenges and lessons learned with other networks and organisations from outside of the five city network. During this session, co-hosted by the World Bank, ICLEI Africa and the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the mayors presented their views on climate related risks, what they are doing to address risk, and what they see as the main challenges. Presentations were also given by the World Bank, UNISDR, and ICLEI Africa on the challenges associated with urban adaptation, each highlighting the central role that cities and local governments play in building resilience and long term sustainability by



mainstreaming climate change adaptation and risk reduction into urban management. The importance of participatory and inclusive dialogues in planning processes was emphasised, including the need to increase capacity through knowledge sharing and collaboration around best practice.

ICLEI's Adaptation Network Mayors attended and participated within the Understanding Risk Forum 2012. From left: Mr Juvane, Director of Urban Planning, Maputo City Council, Mozambique; Councillor Nambahu, Walvis Bay Municipality, Namibia; Executive Alderman de Lille, City of Cape Town, South Africa; Mayor Hoja, Temeke Municipality, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; Mayor Massaburi, Dar es Salaam City Council, Tanzania; and Lord Mayor Kodabaccus, Port Louis Municipal Council, Mauritius.

WITNESSING URBAN RISKS AND LOCAL SOLUTIONS

The technical leaders from each of the project cities had the opportunity to visit some vulnerable sites along Cape Town's west coast. The Participants travelled from Cape Town to Milnerton using the City of Cape Town's integrated Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, the MyCiti bus. Upon arrival, they were taken on a guided tour on Coastal Vulnerabilities and Adaptation in Cape Town by Mr Darryl Colenbrander, the cities Coastal co-ordinator.

From Milnerton, the delegates were transported to the Mamre Community, to the north of the city centre, where the City of Cape Town has retrofitted 236 Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) houses with insulated ceilings. The aim of the initiative was to simultaneously reduce energy consumption, increase community resilience and enhance quality of life and wellbeing. The delegation met with, discussed and listened to testimonies from community members who have benefitted from this retrofitting project. Historically, the Mamre community members suffer from high rates of lung diseases associated with poor and damp living conditions such as Tuberculosis (TB). Anecdotal information shared during this field trip, indicated that no cases of TB had been reported for the period 2011-2012 at the local community clinic—community members attribute this to the installation of the insulated ceilings.



Darryl Colenbrander, Coastal Co-ordinator, City of Cape Town, speaking to the visiting technical team on coastal vulnerability and adaptation near Woodbridge Island, on Cape Town's west coast shoreline.



Mamre Visitors Information Centre welcomed the five city technical delegates to showcase their green building and provide a presentation of the impact and benefits the Mamre Ceiling Project had on the local community.

Sub-Saharan Africa: 5 City Adaptation Network

'SAVE YOUR CITY: ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE'

On the evening of the 5 July 2012, ICLEI Africa hosted a networking dinner, during which ICLEI Africa officially awarded Walvis Bay Municipality the winner of the ICLEI Africa 'Save Your City: Adapt to Climate Change' competition. Walvis Bay provided a short presentation on the efforts and actions that have been undertaken through the award winning climate change training and capacity building project, which was provided seed funding through this competition.



Awarding Walvis Bay as the winner of the ICLEI Africa 'Save Your City: Adapt to Climate Change' competition. From left: Professor Geoff Brundrit, Special Adviser on Oceans and Climate Change, Oceans & Coastal Research, Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa; Mr David Uushona, Manager: Solid Waste and Environmental Management, Walvis Bay Municipality, Namibia; Miss Priscilla Rowswell, Professional Officer: Climate Change Adaptation, ICLEI Africa; Cllr Uilika Nambahu, Walvis Bay Municipality, Namibia; Cllr Gareth Bloor, City of Cape Town; South Africa; Miss Lucinda Fairhurst, Manager: Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction, ICLEI Africa.

LAUNCHING OF THE ONLINE AFRICAN CITIES ADAPTATION TOOL

ICLEI Africa launched the online African Cities Adapt Tool/interactive website that outlines, identifies and tests the process for African local governments to develop adaptation and climate resilient strategies, plans and actions that are locally appropriate to the risks and impacts that are being faced at the local level. The interactive tool/website is rooted within the project's Participatory Action Research (PAR) methodology that have been undertaken through the consultative processes used in the development of tailor-made climate resilient handbooks for each city that outlines some locally appropriate actions (and the required sub-actions and resources) to increase climate preparedness at the local level. Using the main processes undertaken during the project as an underlying framework from which to hang the PAR tools for:



1. Building capacity of community members, private sector representatives and local decision makers alike;
2. Assessing climate risk;
3. Identifying and prioritising locally appropriate adaptation options, related actions and responsibilities.

The African Cities Adapt: Interactive Adaptation Participatory Process/Tool will be made available to other cities wishing to join the Network Program in August 2012.

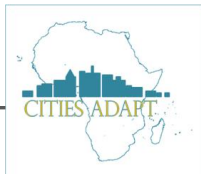
FIVE CITIES ADAPT NETWORK: THE LEGACY

During the workshop closing, the five pioneering cities of the Network discussed the legacy of the project and the way forward for the Network. The five cities envisaged the continuation of the Network and inter-city engagements (despite the end of the project), and that this formalised network should allow for other cities to join. A broader network would thus open opportunities for other cities and local authorities to undertake a similar adaptive process towards building urban climate resilience and preparedness by making use of the African Cities Adapt: Interactive Adaptation Participatory Process/Tool that is soon to be launched, taking advantage of valued guidance by the pioneering cities and supported technically by ICLEI Africa's Climate Change Adaptation team.



For further information on the 5 City Adaptation Network Program, Cities Adaptation Tool or the Participatory Action Research Tools, please contact ICLEI Africa's Climate Change team at iclei-africa@iclei.org.

- Partners -



ICLEI - Local Government for Sustainability - Africa



Since 2009, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability – Africa initiated and embarked on a climate change adaptation project entitled: Sub-Saharan African Cities: A five-City Network to Pioneer Climate Adaptation through Participatory Research & Local Action. The project aims to address the knowledge, resource, capacity and networking gaps by strengthening the ability to plan for, and adapt to, impacts associated with climate change. The project is lead by ICLEI-Africa in partnership with five Sub-Saharan cities (Walvis Bay, Namibia; Cape Town, South Africa, Maputo, Mozambique; Temeke, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Port Louis, Mauritius) and other relevant key local stakeholders. ICLEI Africa has an official mandate to work with sub-national governments within Sub-Saharan countries towards sustainable development. This particular project, falls within ICLEI's climate change workstream and has provided great insight and enhanced knowledge around climate change impacts and actions at the African local level.

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Climate Change Adaptation in Africa Program



The Climate Change Adaptation in Africa program seeks to improve the ability of African countries to adapt to climate change in ways that benefit the most vulnerable.

Since 2006, IDRC has partnered with the UK's Department for International Development to fund a program that supports African researchers' efforts to help communities adapt to the effects of climate change.

Originally planned as a five-year initiative, the CCAA program was extended to 31 March, 2012. The program has funded 46 research and capacity-building projects in 33 African countries. A wealth of new knowledge on adaptation is emerging and being shared with those who will most directly benefit. Building African leadership for adaptation research was a key priority; 87% of the 244 organizations involved in CCAA projects are African.

CCAA's support for climate change initiatives in Africa aims to help Africans create better, more informed adaptation policies and plans. Some of the results CCAA grantees are achieving can be found here ([access to technical reports, research papers, policy briefs, and much more](#)).

The World Bank



The World Bank has an extensive program addressing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at the global, regional, and country and city level working on understanding risk and strategies for building resilience, capacity building, and through country lending. The Bank's support to Sub-Saharan African countries is based on the following key principals; i) disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation need be managed as a single integrated agenda; ii) adaptation and risk reduction are fundamentally about sound development; iii) mitigation should go hand-in-hand with adaptation, and iv) scaling-up financing is necessary to meet Africa's development needs in a climate-constrained environment.

Operational links between climate adaptation and disaster risk management have been strengthened in recent years, working closely with the [Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery](#) (GFDRR). Disasters are an entry point for dialogue with countries on building resilience to future long-term risks posed by climate change. The World Bank Institute is one of the Bank's main instruments for developing individual, organizational and institutional capacity with a strong program on capacity building on topics related to cities and climate change, safe and resilient cities and sustainable urban development.